

## **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-8 are allowed because the claims distinctly delineate the illustration of the invention, which sets forth the specific limitations of having eight sloping faces on the left-hand and right-hand side of a base body part, which is centrally located with parallel upper and lower faces, that alternately move to and away from the horizontal axis, as well as the specific relationships between the faces, and having the limitations of protrusions on the upper surface.

For example, German Patent 2110563 teaches a block that is generally similar in shape, has sloping faces on both the left-hand and right hand side of a base body part that has opposite and parallel faces centrally located. The block also has interlocking functionality. However, German reference 2110563 does not teach a block that has protrusions on the upper surface and grooves on the lower surface as well as a specific number of sloping faces alternating in specific directions relative to the horizontal axis. Examiner notes that there is reference that anticipates or makes obvious the applicants' claimed invention.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JAMES J. BUCKLE JR whose telephone number is (571)270-3739. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, Alternating Friday 7:30am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Victor Batson can be reached on 571-272-6987. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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JJB